

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 25065 01 OF 02 100911Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 ICA-20 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 AF-10
ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HEW-06 TRSE-00
OMB-01 /115 W
-----024634 100927Z /12
R 100911Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5955

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 25065

NESCO

PASS TO DHEW/USOE/COTNER/SHIFFMAN

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, SEDU, UNESCO
SUBJECT: UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD 105TH SESSION: AGENDA
ITEM 5.2.1 THE ORGANIZATION'S LITERACY PROGRAM,
DOCUMENT 105 EX/9

1. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL HAS PREPARED A REPORT ON
SUBJECT TOPIC AT THE REQUEST OF THE 103RD EXECUTIVE
BOARD. THE REPORT IS PRESENTLY IN TRANSLATION AND NOT
EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION UNTIL LATER THIS
MONTH. PERMDEL WILL POUCH TO DEPT AND USOE UPON
RECEIPT.
2. PERMDEL HAS DISCUSSED DOCUMENT WITH VARIOUS
SECRETARIAT MEMBERS. IT WILL BE A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT
CONSISTING OF 6 CHAPTERS, I.E. DEFINITIONS OF LITERACY;
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE; PROPOSED SAMPLE
"EFFECTIVE" STRATEGIES; PROPOSED SUPPLEMENT TO
1979-80 BUDGET; ADVISABILITY OF A LITERACY FUND; AND
ADVISABILITY OF A LITERACY DECADE.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 25065 01 OF 02 100911Z

3. IN HIS REPORT DG WILL MAKE THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS:
 - A. UNESCO SHOULD CONCENTRATE ITS ASSISTANCE TO
ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES.
 - B. THE PRESENT DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET 1979-80

(20 C/5) BE SUPPLEMENTED, ADDING \$945,000 TO THE EXISTING \$5,475,000 REGULAR PROGRAM BUDGET. THIS INCREASE WOULD INCLUDE \$675,000 FOR PROGRAM IN THEMES 01 THROUGH 04 AND \$270,000 FOR THE ADDITION OF 4 PROFESSIONALS AND 3 GENERAL SERVICES STAFF FOR THE LITERACY PROGRAM. TWO OF THE PROFESSIONAL POSTS WOULD BE DESIGNATED FOR REGIONAL OFFICES. THE PURPOSE OF THIS INCREASE WOULD BE NOT ONLY TO STRENGTHEN PROGRAM BUT ALSO TO DEMONSTRATE TO OTHER COOPERATING AGENCIES THE INCREASED COMMITMENT OF UNESCO TO THIS FIELD WITH THE INTENT OF OBTAINING INCREASED FUNDS FROM EXTRA-BUDGETARY SOURCES. NO MENTION IS MADE FROM WHERE THIS ADDITIONAL MONEY SHOULD COME.

C. THE EXISTING EXTRA-BUDGETARY SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR LITERACY DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHED IN 1967 BE USED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE FOR ANY DONATIONS BY MEMBER STATES OR OTHER SOURCES, RATHER THAN ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL LITERACY FUND. THE RATIONALE FOR THIS RECOMMENDATION IS THAT IN THE PAST ONLY IRAN MADE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION (\$700,000) TO THIS ACCOUNT; THEREFORE, UNLESS THERE IS A GREAT DEAL MORE INTEREST AND COMMITMENT DEMONSTRATED BY MEMBER STATES, A NEW SPECIAL FUND REQUIRING A GOVERNING BOARD IS NOT NECESSARY AT THIS TIME.

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PAGE 03 PARIS 25065 01 OF 02 100911Z

D. WITH REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF A SEPARATE LITERACY DECADE THREE ALTERNATIVES ARE PRESENTED:

(1) A SEPARATE LITERACY DECADE

(2) INCORPORATE LITERACY DEVELOPMENT AS A PRIORITY IN THE THIRD DEVELOPMENT DECADE

(3) PROVIDE INCREASE IN EMPHASIS ON LITERACY DEVELOPMENT IN THE SECOND MEDIUM TERM PLAN
1983-88

THE TEXT WILL ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE EXBD AND GENERAL CONFERENCE TO ACCEPT ALTERNATIVE(S) (2) AND/OR (3).

5. PERMDEL RECOMMENDS THAT USG TAKE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

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PAGE 01 PARIS 25065 02 OF 02 100911Z
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AID-05 ICA-20 HEW-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AF-10 ARA-14
EA-12 NEA-10 /115 W
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 25065

A. IN GENERAL, US SHOULD SUPPORT INCREASED UNESCO
ACTIVITY IN LITERACY DEVELOPMENT. LITERACY PROGRAMS
WILL BE ONE OF THIRD WORLD MEMBER STATES HIGHEST
PRIORITIES AT 20TH G.C. EASTERN BLOC WILL ALSO
SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE.

B. ENDORSE UNESCO'S ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES FOR
THE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF EFFECTIVE NATIONAL
STRATEGIES IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES.

C. SUPPORT INCREASE IN RESOURCES IN 20 C/5 DOCUMENT
FOR OBJECTIVE 6.1, "THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ILLITERACY"
ONLY IF DG CAN ASSURE THAT SUCH INCREASE WILL NOT
RAISE THE BUDGET CEILING OR DECREASE FUNDS ALLOCATED
TO OTHER PRIORITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS. HE COULD USE
MONIES FROM HIS DISCRETIONARY FUND OR FROM SELECTED
LOW OR NO IMPACT PROGRAMS NOT WITHIN US INTERESTS.

D. SUPPORT RECOMMENDATION FOR UTILIZING THE EXISTING
SPECIAL ACCOUNT TO RECEIVE VOLUNTARY DONATIONS FROM
MEMBER STATES OR OTHER SOURCES. A SPECIAL FUND IS
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PAGE 02 PARIS 25065 02 OF 02 100911Z

NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME.

E. SUPPORT CONCEPT OF INCREASED EMPHASIS ON
LITERACY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CONTEXT
OF THE THIRD DEVELOPMENT DECADE. SUPPORT COULD ALSO
BE GIVEN TO AN INCREASED EMPHASIS IN THE SECOND
MEDIUM TERM PLAN 1983-88 PROVIDED IT WILL NOT IN ANY
WAY DECREASE THE NEW ADDED EMPHASES AND RESOURCES TO
BE GIVEN TO VOCATIONAL - TECHNICAL EDUCATION,
EDUCATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED, AND OTHER PROGRAMS IN
WHICH US HAS HIGH INTEREST.

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